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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

BRIAN O'HOLLORAN and PATRICK J. FERGUSON

Serial No. : 09/863,074 Dated: October 8, 2001

Filed : May 21, 2001 Our File: CMI 304B

For : SURGICAL NEEDLE WITH HAND-ACTUABLE
LOCK MECHANISM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

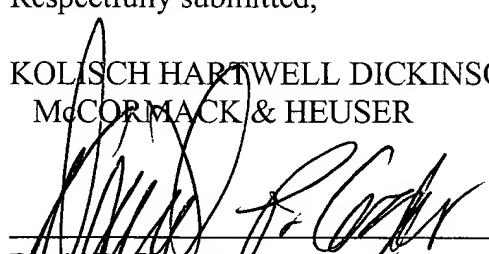
Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56**

Pursuant to applicants' duty of disclosure required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicants are submitting the enclosed, completed PTO Form 1449 with copies of each reference as required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The listing of any reference or the submission of a copy of any reference shall not be deemed as an admission that the listed or submitted reference is prior art for this application.

Respectfully submitted,

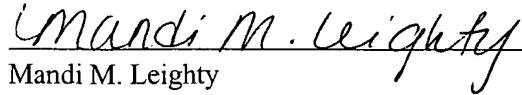
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 8, 2001.


Mandi M. Leighty